Attorney Docket No.

## MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

## United States Patent Application

## COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the origi below) of the subject matter which is CANTSTER MOUNTIN	nal, first and sole inventor (if onl claimed and for which a patent is IG STRUCTURE	y one name is listed belos s sought on the invention	ow) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are nam n entitled:		
The specification of which a. \( \) is attached hereto b. \( \) was filed on of a PCT-filed application) described a (if any), which I have reviewed and for	as application serial no. and claimed in international no. r which I solicit a United States p	and was an filed patent.			
hereby state that I have reviewed an amendment referred to above.	d understand the contents of the	e above-identified specifi	fication, including the claims, as amended by any		
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits listed below and have also identified b application on the basis of which prior	pelow any foreign application for	ode, § 119 <i>/</i> 365 of any fo patent or inventor's cert	oreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certifi tificate having a filing date before that of the		
a.  ☐ no such applications have bee b.  ☑ such applications have been fi	led as follows:		and the second s		
FOREIG	N APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, (				
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)		
Japan	2002 -307375	22/10/ 2002	(uay, monur, year)		
ALL EODEIG	N APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, F	I ED BEFORE THE PR	RIORITY APPLICATION(S)		
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)		
and, insofar as the subject matter of e	each of the claims of this applica a 35. United States Code. § 112	tion is not disclosed in the . I acknowledge the duty	s and PCT international application(s) listed below the prior United States application in the manner y to disclose material information as defined in Tit or application and the national or PCT international		
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER DATE OF FILING (day, mo		STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)		
hereby claim the benefit under Title	35, United States Code § 119(e	) of any United States pr	rovisional application(s) listed below:		
U.S. PROVISIONAL AI	PPLICATION NUMBER	DA	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)		

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

## § 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
  - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

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- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attomey(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Leon, Andrew J.	Reg. No. 46,869
Altera, Allan G.	REg. No. 40,274	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Anderson, Gregg 1.	Reg. No. 28,828	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Lown, Jean A.	Reg. No. P48,428
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	Mayfield, Denise L.	Reg. No. 33,732
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Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
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•	Reg. No. 36,414	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 42,157	Roberts, Fred	Reg. No. 34,707
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.		•	Reg. No. 43,080
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Samuels, Lisa A.	•
Doscotch, Matthew A.	Reg No. P48,957	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
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Hope, Leonard J.	Reg. No. 44,774	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
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Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946	Young, Thomas	Reg. No. 25,796
Lady, i dui L.	1.09. 1.0. 00,010	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255
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I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attomey/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 \*2355

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	,,		Second Given Name		
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Signature of Inventor 201:  Tsuyoshi Chou			Date: July 23,2003			
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